



**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE  
OFFICE OF FREEDOM OF INFORMATION  
1155 DEFENSE PENTAGON  
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-1155**

**MAY 31 2012**

Ref: 11-F-0917  
DIA #0288-2011

Jason Smathers  
MuckRock  
185 Beacon St. #3  
Somerville, MA 02143

Dear Mr. Smathers:

This Office is responding on behalf of the Department of Defense to all Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests relating to the death of Osama bin Laden that were submitted to any component of the Department of Defense. By our letter dated January 20, 2012, we responded to the request you submitted to the U.S. Central Command and advised you that the requests you submitted to this Office and to the Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA) were still being processed. This letter is a final response to those requests.

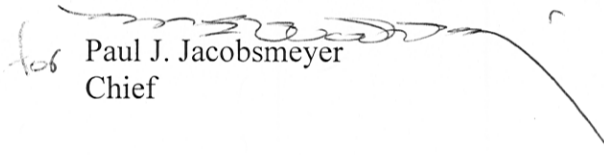
Concerning the request you submitted to this office (Office of the Secretary of Defense and the Joint Staff), we interpreted that request as asking for communications between OSD and the White House concerning the location of Osama bin Laden, intelligence on Osama bin Laden's activity, and the request for and authorization to attack Osama bin Laden during the time period from 4/1/11 through 5/1/11. Your request was initially tolled for further clarification as to what officials or offices you meant and you agreed by e-mail on August 24, 2011, that you would accept records of Secretary Gates, Deputy Secretary Lynn and the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense Policy. Searches were conducted by the offices of the Under Secretary of Defense Policy, Executive Services Directorate, Correspondence Management, who manages correspondence for the Secretary of Defense and the Deputy Secretary of Defense, and the Secretary of Defense Communications Office and no records responsive to your request were identified.

Concerning the request you submitted to the Defense Intelligence Agency, you requested "All intelligence held by the DIA which led to the authorization of the attack where Osama Bin Laden was killed on 5/1/2011." The DIA has advised that they hold no records responsive to your request as it is written.

If you are not satisfied with the response of the Office of the Secretary of Defense, you may appeal to the appellate authority, the Director of Administration and Management, Office of the Secretary of Defense, by writing directly to the Defense Freedom of Information Policy Office, Attn: Mr. James Hogan, 1155 Defense Pentagon, Washington, D.C. 20301-1155. Your appeal should be postmarked within 60 calendar days of the date of this letter, should cite to case number 11-F-0917, and should be clearly marked "Freedom of Information Act Appeal."

An appeal to the DIA action should be addressed to Mrs. Alesia Y. Williams, Initial Denial Authority, Defense Intelligence Agency, ATTN: DAN-1A(FOIA), 200 MacDill Blvd, Washington, D.C. 20340-5100. Your appeal should be postmarked within 60 calendar days of the date of this letter and cite to DIA FOIA case number #0288-2011.

Sincerely,

  
for Paul J. Jacobsmeyer  
Chief

Copy to:  
Defense Intelligence Agency  
ATTN: DAN-1A(FOIA)  
200 MacDill Blvd  
Washington, D.C. 20340